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BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

333 Commerce Street
Suite 2101
Nashville, TN 37201-3300

guy.hicks@bellsouth.com

Guy M. Hicks

General Counsel

615 214 6301

Fax 615 214 7406

January 20, 2004

TR.A. DOCKET ROOM

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Deborah Taylor Tate, Chairman
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

Re: *Petition for Arbitration of ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc. with
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to the
Telecommunications Act of 1996*
Docket No. 03-00119

Dear Chairman Tate:

During the Arbitrators' recent deliberations regarding Issues 44 and 46 in this proceeding, BellSouth was asked to provide information involving what will be required to provide busy-line verification and busy-line interrupt ("BLV/BLVI") for ITC^DeltaCom and the cost associated with developing such services. BellSouth was further asked to notify the Authority how soon BellSouth could provide that information.

The Arbitrators' requests were communicated to the appropriate BellSouth employees in Atlanta on the same day as the deliberations. BellSouth has subsequently developed a detailed proposal and submitted it to Nortel, the BellSouth operator services platform supplier which would perform most of the work to develop the BLV/BLVI services. There are a number of technical issues involved in developing a solution consistent with the Arbitrators' ruling on Issue 44, and BellSouth is, to a great degree, dependent upon Nortel's development of a solution and the costs involved in implementing it. Further, BellSouth has its own work to perform which can only commence once Nortel has informed BellSouth as to how it plans to effectuate the required functionality. Based on discussions with Nortel, BellSouth believes that the requested information can be provided to the Authority and to DeltaCom by February 13, 2004.

Consistent with the deliberations of the Arbitrators, BellSouth understands DeltaCom will have ten days from February 13 to respond to BellSouth's submission.

Hon. Deborah Taylor Tate, Chairman
January 20, 2004
Page 2

A copy of this letter is being provided to counsel of record for DeltaCom.

Very truly yours,



Guy M. Hicks

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 20, 2004, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via the method indicated:

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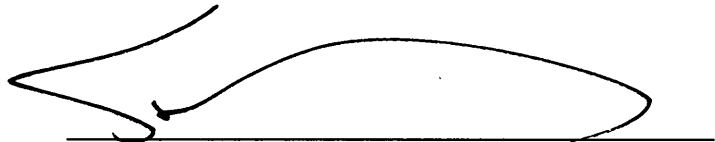
Henry Walker, Esquire
Boult, Cummings, et al.
414 Union Street, #1600
Nashville, TN 37219-8062
hwalker@boultcummings.com

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☐ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight
☒ Electronic

Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire
ITC^DeltaCom
4092 South Memorial Parkway
Huntsville, AL 35802
nedwards@itcdeltacom.com

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

David Adelman, Esquire
Charles B. Jones, III, Esquire
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan
999 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30309

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Adelman", is written over a horizontal line.